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REPORT ON THE HEALTH AND THE SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF
THE URBAN DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1941.

By J. C. PICKUP, M.B., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law.
Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the Wombwell
Urban District Council.

Councillor Mrs. Mellor and Gentlemen,

This is my twenty-second Annual Report on the Health of
the Urban District.

The chief features of the year are:

(a) The great reduction in the Respiratory death rate
(Non-Tubercular cases) - from 2.5 per 1,000 to 0.87
per 1,000.

(b) The continuing increase in the Cancer death rate.

(c) The large number of notified cases of Measles (88)
and Whooping Cough (159) without a single death.

(d) This year the death rate which is recorded is the
crude death rate and not the adjusted death rate as
the Registrar General is not this year supplying
districts with a comparability factor.

The Ministry of Health desires that the report should
be a short one on account of the war, giving mainly the
statistics.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. PICKUP.

SUMMARY OF REPORT.

Population estimated by Registrar General for 1941
(mid-year)

Excess of Births over Deaths for 1941	171
Number of houses occupied at the end of 1941	4,888
Rateable Value	£62,720
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£235

BIRTHS.

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	331	163	168
Illegitimate	11	6	5
Birth Rate	19.9 per 1,000	(England and Wales was 14.2)	

Over/

DEATHS.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births:			
Legitimate	43.8	Illegitimate	Nil
		Total	43.8
Deaths from Measles			0
Deaths from Whooping Cough			0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			1(0.05)
Death Rate			9.9
Death Rate, Tuberculosis of Respiratory			
	System	8	(0.46 per 1,000)
Death Rate, Zymotic Diseases		3	(0.16 per 1,000)
Death Rate, Respiratory Diseases		15	(0.87 per 1,000)
Death Rate from Cancer		33	(1.9 per 1,000)

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

This year's population gives an average number of persons per house of

The estimated population in the various wards of the Urban District is given below:

S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
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During the year 3 cases were admitted into, and 2 cases discharged from, Sanatoria.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

The excess of births over deaths, or what is generally spoken of as "the natural increase of population," was 171.

The distribution of the births in the Wards is as follows:

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
Males	23	68	29	24	31
Females	<u>22</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>37</u>
	45	125	58	46	68

Of the total births, 11 (6 males and 5 females) or 3.2 per cent. were registered as being illegitimate.


DEATHS.

The total deaths amounted to 171, including deaths of residents dying outside the district and excluding non-residents who died in the district. They consisted of 102 males and 69 females.

Distributed in Wards they were:

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
Males	7	36	16	17	27
Females	<u>11</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
	18	60	29	30	34

This gives a total death rate of 9.9 per 1,000 as against 12.9 for England and Wales.



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DEATHS IN QUARTERS.

46 for the first quarter, 46 for the second quarter, 43 for the third quarter and 36 for the fourth quarter.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Death Rate 1941.	Disease.	No. of Deaths in 1941.	Increase or decrease compared with 1940.	Death Rate 1940.
0.0	Enteric Fever	0	same	0.0
0.0	Smallpox	0	same	0.0
0.0	Measles	0	same	0.0
0.0	Scarlet Fever	0	same	0.0
0.0	Whooping Cough	0	same	0.0
0.1	Diphtheria	2	+	0.05
0.05	Influenza	1	—	0.7
0.46	Phthisis	8	+	0.41
0.05	Other Tuberculous Disease	1	same	0.05
1.9	Cancer	33	+	1.6
0.05	Rheumatic Fever	1	same	0.05
0.05	Meningitis (Meningococcal)	1	+	0.0
0.8	Cerebral Haemorrhage	13	+	0.35
2.04	Organic Heart Disease	35	—	2.22
0.4	Bronchitis	7	—	0.93
0.29	Pneumonia	5	—	1.1
0.17	Other Disease of Respiratory Organs	3	—	0.46
0.05	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years)	1	same	0.05
0.0	Appendicitis	0	—	0.05
0.05	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	same	0.05
0.7	Nephritis	12	+	0.41
0.05	Puerperal Sepsis	1	+	0.0
0.0	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	0	—	0.1
0.4	Congenital Debility and Malformation including Premature Birth	7	—	0.45
0.52	Violent Deaths	9	same	0.52
0.05	Suicide	1	same	0.05
0.6	Other Defined Diseases	11	—	0.84
0.05	Peptic Ulcer	1	—	0.16
0.05	Diabetes	1	—	0.22
1.05	Ill Defined Diseases	16	—	1.23
9.9		171	—	12.4

(Adjusted to 14.2)

There were 11 inquiries held by the Coroner in Wombwell during the year (being 6.4 per cent. of the total deaths).

Post Mortem Examinations were carried out in 7 cases.

Of still born babies (12) there were 10 interred at Wombwell Cemetery and 2 at Hemingfield Cemetery. The number of still born babies notified was 12.

The causes of Infantile Deaths were as follow:
Premature Births 4; Cardiac Disease, Pneumonia, Atelectasis, 2 each; Gastro-Enteritis, Pyelonephritis, Icterus Neonatorum, Marasmus and Meningitis 1 each.

Infantile Deaths in Wards.

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
Males	1	4	-	1	4
Females	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	1	6	1	2	5

There was no Illegitimate Death during the year.

WARD STATISTICS.

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
Approximate Population					
All Deaths	18	60	29	30	34
Death Rate	8.01	10.8	9.2	11.7	9.2
Births	44	125	58	46	68
Birth Rate	19.5	22.6	18.4	18.03	18.4
Infantile Deaths	1	6	1	2	5
Infantile Death Rate (per 1,000 births)	22.7	48.0	17.2	43.4	73.4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The causes of Zymotic Disease were as follow:

Scarlet Fever	-
Diphtheria	2
Whooping Cough	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1
Smallpox	-
Measles	-
Enteric Fever	-

Under the Infectious Disease Notification Act there were notified 385 cases of Infectious Disease as follow;

Scarlet Fever	26 (16 males and 10 females.)
Diphtheria	15 (8 males and 7 females.)
Puerperal Pyrexia	1.
Whooping Cough	159 (63 males and 96 females.)
Erysipelas	12 (4 males and 8 females.)
Measles	88 (39 males and 49 females.)
Pneumonia	61 (39 males and 22 females.)
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	12 (8 males and 4 females.)
Tuberculosis (Non Respiratory)	7 (4 males, 3 females.)
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	4 (3 males and 1 female.)

Notifications of Infectious Diseases in Wombwell in 1941.

	Removed to Hospital	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	11	-
Diphtheria	14	2
Erysipelas	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1
Pneumonia	-	5
Phthisis	-	8
Other Tubercular Diseases	-	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	4	1

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62 or 73.

WATER SUPPLY.

The supply of water to all parts of the town is regular and adequate.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No new pollution of any rivers and streams was noticed during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The baths have been closed from the 1st September, 1939, as the baths are now used as a First Aid Post. Samples of water taken previously showed a high standard of purification.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of the schools in the district is good.

NEO-NATAL DEATHS.

The number of deaths of Infants in the first month of life was 8.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

One case occurred during the year - a case of self-inflicted abortion.

ANTENATAL CLINIC.

50 clinics were held through the year, 242 women made 1376 attendances, giving an average of 25.5 per session.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITING.

Births.	
First Visits	315
Re-visits during the year	2143
Re-visits over the first year	5038
Ante-Natal Visits	316
Still Births Visits	12
Other Visits	303
	<u>8127</u>

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

At the Wombwell Infant Clinic, where 49 sessions were held, there have attended 3787 children, a weekly average of 77.3, 252 new babies have joined, 226 of these being under one year and 26 over that age. The doctor examined 1104 children during the year, an average of 22.6 per session.

At the Jump Infant Clinic, where 49 sessions were held, 92 new babies have joined during the year, 84 of these being under one year and 8 over that age, there were 1406 attendances, an average of 28.7 weekly, and 470 were examined by the doctor, the average per session being 9.5.

HOME HELPS.

This system, although adopted by you and proved to be very satisfactory, is very little used.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT CENTRE FOR NON-TUBERCULAR CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE.

During 1941, there were 98 sessions and 2307 attendances.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. PICKUP.

U R B A N D I S T R I C T O F W O M B W E L L.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1941.

To the Chairman and Members of the Wombwell
Urban District Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a very brief report of the work carried out in the department during the year ended 1941.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

There are only 4 of these temporary buildings occupied within the district, 3 are caravans and the other is a small bungalow with two separate bedrooms. Legal proceedings with regard to the caravan occupied at Kitroyd, Jump have terminated very unsatisfactorily and the tenant is still in occupation, though a daily penalty has been imposed by the magistrates.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There is no change in this position. The percentage of closets on the water carriage system is 98.5.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are 14 farms within the district upon which milk is produced. One Tuberculin Tested (Certified) and 6 Accredited Licences are in force.

35 Visits have been made to these premises during the year.

PURVEYORS OF MILK.

There are 22 purveyors of milk on the registers which include local farmers.

No samples of milk were taken either for bacteriological or chemical analysis during the year.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 11 privately owned slaughter houses but none are in use except for occasional slaughtering.

FOOD PREMISES AND SHOPS.

46 visits were made to premises and shops where food is prepared or stored for sale and 68 visits were made to your markets.

Small quantities of foodstuffs submitted for examination were dealt with. Condemned food, when not used for stock feeding, was destroyed. It consisted chiefly of tinned meat, fruit, vegetables, fish, soup, milk, flour, egg substitute, milk powder, cheese and small quantities of fresh-killed meat.

Over/

NUISANCES.

Of 520 nuisances investigated and needing abatement, 456 were satisfactorily dealt with. 177 informal notices were served and 132 were complied with. They consisted of minor housing repairs, defective drainage, burst water services, defective sanitary fittings, etc.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING.

This is carried out entirely by the Council's own staff. During the year 3674 loads of refuse were collected and all of this, with the exception of a few loads to allotment holders and the filling-in of an old shaft at Greenland, was disposed of by controlled tipping at Brampton and Jump. It is estimated that the 3674 loads weighed 7762 tons.

	Tons	Cwts.
The estimated weight collected per 1,000 houses	1587	19.4
The estimated weight collected per day per 1,000 houses	4	7.0
The average estimated weight collected from each house	1	11.7

SCAVENGING COSTS.

	Collection			Disposal			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gross Costs	3438	-	-	858	-	-	4296	-	-
Income	682	-	-	238	-	-	920	-	-
Nett Costs	2756	-	-	620	-	-	3376	-	-

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cost per 1,000 houses	563	16	7.1	126	16	9.9	690	13	5
Cost per 1,000 houses per day	1	10	10.7	-	6	11.4	1	17	10.1
Cost per estimated ton	-	7	1.2	-	1	7.2	-	8	8.4
Average Cost per day	7	11	0.1	1	13	11.7	9	4	11.8

SALVAGE.

The income derived from salvage during the year ended 31st March, 1941 was £866. The following is a list of articles salvaged, along with the amounts received by the sale of same.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	118	3	2	-	520	8	7
Black Scrap	20	11	-	-	53	6	7
Loose Tins	50	3	3	-	52	13	9
Aluminium	-	2	2	17	7	13	9
Copper	-	1	1	2	2	5	2
Brass	-	10	-	5	12	15	7
Zinc and Spelter	-	3	3	11	2	2	5
Lead	1	1	1	9	13	-	1
Pewter	-	-	-	22	1	8	2
Bottles	-	12	-	-	1	11	2
Jars	-	10	3	-	2	7	6
Textiles	8	1	3	1	101	18	5
Kitchen Waste	31	4	-	-	31	4	-
Waste Fish	14	10	-	-	14	10	-
Bones	12	2	-	21	42	8	2
"Cullet"	3	16	-	-	6	13	-

I desire to record my appreciation of the support received from the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Officials of other departments, the two Clerks in the Public Health Department, the Salvage Wardens and the workmen engaged on public cleansing and salvage collection.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

H. WARD,
Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

